FORM PTO-1	390 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF CO	OMMERCE PATENT AND	TRADEMARK	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO. PHD 98,097		
TRANS OFFI	MITTAL LETTER TO THE UI ICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNII	NITED STATES DESIGNG A FILING UNDER 3	NED/ELECTED 85 U.S.C. 371	U.S. Application No. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)		
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. INTERNATIONAL FI PCT/EP99/06107 AUGUST 19, 1999			G DATE	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED AUGUST 27, 1998		
TITLE OF INV ARRÅNGEM	VENTION ENT AND METHOD FOR LOCAT	ING DATA CARRIERS				
APPLICANT(	(S) FOR DO/EO/US AAB, THOMAS FALCK					
Applicant(s)	herewith submit to the United S	states Designated/Elected	Office (DO/EO/US) the f	ollowing items and other information:		
	his is a FIRST submission of ite					
	This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.					
3. [ ] T	This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).					
4. [ ] A	A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.					
a b	A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2)) a. [X] is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. [] has been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. [] is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).					
6. [ ]	A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))					
ž k	Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))  a. [X] are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).  b. [] have been transmitted by the International Bureau.  c. [] have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.  d. [] have not been made and will not be made.					
8. [ ]	A translation of the amendment to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)).					
- "	An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).					
	A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).					
	o 16. below concern document(s					
	An Information Disclosure State					
	An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet is compliance with 37 C.F.R. 3.28 and 3.31 is included.					
40 EVI	A FIRST preliminary amendmen A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT p	t. reliminary amendment.	CERTIL	FICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING		
14. [ ]	A substitute specification.			g Label No. <u>EL 472 129 285</u>		
15. [X]	A change of power of attorney a	ınd/or address letter.		14/26/00		
16. [X]	Other items or information: Application as published (WO 00 Related Cases/Technology Repo	0/13035)	I hereby certify that the United States Po Addressee" service a above and is adresse	this paper and/or fee is being deposited with stal Service "Express Mail Post Office to under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated at to the tents and Trademarks, Washington		
			G. LAMPRECHT Typed Name	- GNANCRI		

U.S. APPLICATION NO 09/	5 30 25 3	attorney's docket number アHD 98097					
17[] The following f	ees are submitted:	CALCULATIONS (PTO USE ONLY)					
	(37 C.F.R. 1.492(A)(1)-(5	5)):					
Search Rep	oort has been prepared b	y the EPO or JPO	\$940.00				
Internation (37 C.F.R. 1	al preliminary-examinati  .482						
No internat (37 C.F.R. 1 (37 C.F.R. 1	tional preliminary examii I.482) but international s I.445(a)(2)						
Neither into 1.482) nor i paid to USI	ernational preliminary ex international search fee PTO						
Internation (37 C.F.R. 1 Article 33(2	al preliminary examinati I.482) and all claims sati !)-(4)	on fee paid to USPTO sfied provisions of PCT	\$ 96.00				
·	ENTER APPROPRIATE E	BASIC FEE AMOUNT =		\$970.00			
Surcharge of \$130.00 from the earliest clain	for furnishing the oath c ned priority date (37 C.F.	or declaration later than .R. 1.492(e)).	[ ] 20 [ ] 30 months	\$			
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE				
Total Claims	5 - 20 =		X \$ 18.00	\$			
Independent claims	2 - 3 =		X \$ 78.00	\$			
MULTIPLE DEPENDE	NT CLAIMS (if		+ \$260.00	s			
	TOTAL OF A	BOVE CALCULATIONS	=	\$970.00			
Reductions by 1/2 for must also be filed (No	filing by small entity, if ote 37 C.F.R. 1.9, 1.27, 1.3	\$					
			BTOTAL =	\$970.00			
Processing fee of \$13	80,00 for furnishing the E lest claimed priority date	\$					
		\$					
Fee for recording the accompanied by an a	enclosed assignment (3 ppropriate cover sheet (	\$40.00					
		\$1,010.00					
				Amount to be refunded	\$		
				charged	\$		
a. [ ] A check in	the amount \$	to cover the abo	ove fees is enclosed.	<u> </u>			
a. [ ] A check in the amount \$ to cover the above fees is enclosed.  b. [X] Please charge my Deposit Account No. 14,1270 In the amount of \$1,010.00 to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.							
c. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee, with the exception of the Base Issue Fee, which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14,1270. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.							
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 C.F.R. 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 C.F.R. 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.							
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:							
Corporate Patent Co Philips Electronics N 580 White Plains Roa Tarrytown, NY 10591	orth America Corporation	e					
39,398 (REGISTRATION NUMBER)  DATE OF MAILING:							

# **526 Rec'd PCT/PTO 26** APR 2000

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Atty. Docket

HENNING MAAB ET AL

PHD 98,097

Int'l Application No.: PCT/EP99/06107

Filed: CONCURRENTLY

Title: ARRANGEMENT AND METHOD FOR LOCATING DATA CARRIERS

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

#### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

#### IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, above line 1, insert the heading:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--;

above line 13, insert the heading:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--;

Page 3, above line 5, insert the heading:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--;

line 12, insert the heading:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--.

#### IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 5 and add new Claim 6 as follows:
Claim 5, line 1, delete "and 4".

6. A method as claimed in Claim 4, characterized in that applications interrogate the information unit for the location of a data carrier.

#### IN THE ABSTRACT

Enter the "Abstract of the Disclosure" on the separate sheet attached.

#### REMARKS

The specification and claims have been amended to add headings in accordance with MPEP Section 601, and to delete multiple dependencies.

The above amendments are submitted to place this application in proper U.S. format. Entry of the amendment and an early action on the merits are solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory L. Thorne, Reg. No. 39,398

Attorney

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## **526 Rec'd PCT/PTO 26** APR 2000

#### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Mobile objects for locating, e.g., persons or inanimate objects, are provided with a data carrier that determines the absolute position using a position-determining system such as e.g., GPS. To optimize the exchanging of data between an application that requires the location of the data carrier and the object itself, the absolute position of the objects is transmitted to an information unit when the data carrier is initialized. The information unit translates the coordinates using a digitized map or a plan divided into areas so that the object can be allocated to a corresponding area. This data is stored in the information unit. The boundaries of the area in which the object is located are transmitted to the data carrier and if the object changes its position, the data carrier itself can determine whether the object has left an area. If the current position of the data carrier no longer matches the area information, the data carrier reports its position to the information unit again. If an application requests the position of a data carrier, the information unit transmits the data carrier area information that has been stored to the application.

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Arrangement and method for locating data carriers.

The invention relates to an arrangement for and method of locating objects provided with data carriers.

Such methods enable persons or devices to be located in respective areas. For this purpose, the objects have a portable data carrier which receives position data from a positioning system, for example the Global Positioning System (GPS).

US 5,490,079 describes a system for automated toll collection which utilizes GPS. The system operates with a tag which includes a GPS sensor. When the tag determines that it is situated in such an area, it sends a signal to a receiver. The time of staying in the toll area is stored in the tag. When the toll fee which is due has been paid at an authorized point of payment the amount of toll incurred is cleared. In the case of non-payment of this toll the tag is deactivated after a given time. The tag inter alia includes a memory which stores the toll areas.

In order to enable a universal use of such a data carrier the size of the data carrier should be small in relation to the object. On the other hand, such mobile data carriers require batteries which must be small but should have a long life.

Often, the absolute position of an object or person is not relevant and for many uses it is sufficient when more general area information or the relative position is available.

It is an object of the invention to provide an arrangement and a method by which the exchange of data between data carrier and information unit.

This object is achieved by means of the arrangement defined in Claim 1 and by means of the method defined in Claim 3.

The locating system essentially consists of three components: a position-determining system, an object provided with a data carrier and an information unit.

Upon its initialization the data carrier transmits its absolute coordinates, which represent its absolute position, to the information unit. The information unit stores corresponding areas in electronic maps. The information unit translates the respective absolute coordinates of the data carrier into the relative area data. Moreover, the data of the area in which the data carrier is currently located is stored. The information unit transmits the

boundaries of the area in which the object is located back to the data carrier, where this data is then stored.

Since the object can move within its area, in other areas and also outside the area defined by area boundaries, the data carrier requests its absolute position in definable distances from the position-determining system. By a comparison of this absolute position with the boundaries stored for the area it is determined whether the data carrier is still within the respective stored area. As long as this comparison reveals that the object with the data carrier is still located in the respective area there is no communication between the data carrier and the information unit. Once the data carrier detects that its absolute coordinates lie outside the area stored in the carrier it will transmit its new position to the information unit.

An advantage of this method is that the relative position of the object is continually available in the information unit for any application for which the location of the object is of interest.

This reduces the communication between the data carrier and the information unit to a minimum.

Since the information unit stores, for example, toll areas or applicationspecific areas the data carrier need not be as intricate and expensive. The stored areas can be changed any time without modification of the data carrier.

How many time the data carrier requests its absolute position from the positioning apparatus depends particularly on the required accuracy but also on the speed with which the object travels.

Applications, for example locating systems which are interested in the location of the object but for which the absolute position is not crucial can at any time query the information unit for the instantaneous area where the data carrier is located via existing infrastructural networks.

Situations may arise in which the data carrier is briefly out of contact with the information unit, for example when infrared or radio networks with incomplete coverage are used. The failing contact between the information unit and the object with the data carrier is then not a problem because the information unit stores the area or, in general terms, the relative position of the object.

The relevant application need not immediately interrogate the individual data carriers for each query. This simplifies the communication means. In addition, a plurality of applications can be provided with area information of the objects without each individual application having to communicate with the objects.

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As a result of this reduction of the communication means the batteries and, consequently, the logic means necessary in the data carrier can be small. On the one hand, this extends the operating period of such a data carrier and, on the other hand, it extends its fields of use.

Further advantageous embodiments of the invention will be apparent from the description and the accompanying drawings. In the drawings:

Figure 1 shows a block diagram of an arrangement in accordance with the invention,

Figure 2 shows the structure of a data carrier in conjunction with the positiondetermining system and the information unit, and

Figure 3 shows a time chart for the components involved.

Figure 1 shows the structure of an arrangement in accordance with the invention. The information unit 5 monitors for example four areas 1, 2, 3 and 4 in which objects to be monitored and each having a respective data carrier 11, 12, 13 or 14 is located. The position-determining system 6 transmits the absolute position data to the data carriers 11 to 14. Said absolution position data is transmitted to the information unit 5 in dependence on the mode of the data carrier. In turn-on mode of the data carrier the absolute position data is transmitted directly to the information unit. The information unit 5 transmits boundaries of the respective area in which the data carriers 11-14 are currently located back to said carriers. Apart from this, the absolute position data is only transmitted to the information unit 5 when these lie outside the stored limits of the current instantaneous area. Applications 7 for which the location of the data carriers 11 to 14 is of interest receive the current area information from a data bank from the information unit 5. For this purpose the data carrier need not be contacted. If applications need to respond under given conditions the information unit 5 transmits a message to the application when the respective condition occurs.

Figure 2 shows the data carrier 11, which includes a position sensor 20, a transmitter 21, a receiver 22, a memory 23 and a comparator 24. By means of the position sensor 20 the data carrier 11 receives its absolute position data, for example its absolute coordinates in a space or the geographical position with a length and width specification, from the position-determining system 6. For the position-determining system 6 the Global Positioning System (GPS) can be used. It is likewise possible to use local position-determining systems operating with infrared or radio waves inside buildings.

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The object to be monitored is connected to the data carrier 11. Upon initialization, for example upon turn-on, the data carrier 11 receives the absolute position data from the position -determining system 6 via the position sensor 20. The position data received upon initialization are transmitted directly to the information unit 5. The transmitter 21 provided in the data carrier 11 is used for this purpose. It is also possible to transmit additionally included information, such as time and identification, to the information unit 5. The information unit 5 stores the respective areas in the form of electronic maps. The information unit 5 receives the absolute position data of the location of the object transmitted by the data carrier 11 during the initialization process. In the information unit 5 said absolute position data is assigned to the respective area in which the with the data carrier 11 is now located. The information in which area the object with the data carrier is now located is stored in a data bank of the information unit 5. The boundaries of the area in which the object is located are transmitted back to the data carrier 11. The data carrier 11 receives these boundaries by means of the receiver 22. The boundaries may be transmitted in the form of data of a polygon. The data carrier 11 stores these boundaries in the memory 23.

Depending on the required accuracy the position-determining system 6 is interrogated for the current absolute position by the data carrier 11 at appropriate intervals. Each new position is compared with the boundaries stored in the memory 23 by the comparator 24. There is no communication between the data carrier 11 and the information unit 5 as long as the object with the data carrier 11 is located in the area whose boundaries are stored in the data carrier. The data carrier transmits its absolute position to the information unit 5 only when it is located outside the area and this is has been detected by comparison with the stored boundaries. The information unit then determines the data corresponding to said position data with the aid of the electronic maps stored in it, stores the area which the object has entered, and transmits the new boundaries of the area to the data carrier 11.

This results in an optimization of the communication between the data carrier 11 and the information unit 5 during the time that the data carrier 11 is located within an area. Upon a request to the information unit an application that is interested in the instantaneous position of the data carrier receives the position data of the respective area stored for the relevant data carrier 11. Thus, it is not necessary for the data carrier 11 to be constantly within the receiving range of all possible applications.

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An information unit thus serves a multitude of data carriers 11. Different applications can simultaneously access the information unit 5, as a result of which each application need not directly contact the respective data carriers.

Figure 3 shows diagrammatically the time chart for the communication between the elements of the locating system. The process for the data carrier is represented at A, for the information unit at B, for the position-determining system at C, and for an application at D. A step (31) represents the initialization of the data carrier. Subsequently, the data carrier receives its absolute position data from the position-determining system C. The data carrier then transmits this data to the information unit (34). After having received the position data from the data carrier the information unit allocates the absolute position of the data carrier to an area (35) with the aid of the electronic maps stored therein. This area allocation is stored in a data bank of the information unit (36). With the aid of the area thus determined the boundary data for the relevant area is derived. Subsequently, the information unit transmits this boundary data to the data carrier (38). The data carrier receives the area boundary data and stores this data (39). The data carrier receives its current absolute position from the position-determining system. This current absolute position of the data carrier is compared with the boundary data (41). When the object with the data carrier has moved out of the stored area the current absolute position is no longer within the area boundary data. The data carrier then transmits its new absolute position to the information unit (42). In this unit the same steps are performed as after the first transmission of the absolute position (35, 36, 37, 38). If the position is within the area boundary data the new absolute position is not transmitted to the information unit. During this time an application D may have inquired about a data carrier (43). The information unit selects the respective data carrier from the data bank (44) and transmits the instantaneous area where the data carrier is located to the application (45).

There is a wide variety of examples of applications which may be interested in the locations of the individual data carriers. Some of these examples will be outlined briefly. A possible application is a person locating system. All the persons are then given a data carrier and move inside a complex of buildings. When a person is to be traced the information unit can be interrogated, for example via a local computer network. Thus, for example the room or the building where the person is then located is detected.

Another conceivable application is referred to as a "moving map". A position sensor is installed onboard a vehicle. Via this sensor the absolute position of the vehicle is obtained and transmitted to an information unit via a transmission medium. Information

about the locations of individual vehicles can then be obtained from this information unit. Thus, hauling companies can locate vehicles in the entire area respective covered by an information unit.

An extension is the combination of a plurality of information units. The data

5 banks of a plurality of information units are then controlled from a central point, as a result of which the relevant application needs to address only one point.

**CLAIMS:** 

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- 1. A locating system having a position-determining system and at least one data carrier including a position sensor, a transmitter and a receiver, characterized in that area information is stored in an information unit which is remote from the data carrier and can be transmitted to the data carrier and said data carrier transmits its position to the information unit only in the case of initialization and a change of area.
- 2. A locating system as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the data carrier has a receiver for receiving in particular area boundaries, and a memory for storing area boundaries and absolute position data, and a comparator for said data, and the information unit compares the position data with the area information and transmits the boundaries of the current area to the data carrier.
- 3. A method of locating an object provided with a data carrier, the data carrier receiving position data from a position-determining system, characterized in that the data carrier transmits position data to an information unit, which position data is allocated to an area in the information unit, and the boundaries of the current area are transmitted to the data carrier and upon each movement of the data carrier the current position is compared with the boundaries of the current area and the new position data being transmitted to the information unit only in the case of a negative result of the comparison of the area boundaries transmitted by the information unit with the current position of the mobile data carrier.
- 4. A method as claimed in Claim 3, characterized in that the position data transmitted by the mobile data carrier is translated into area data in the information unit and the current area in which the data carrier is located is stored in the information unit.
- 5. A method as claimed in Claims 3 and 4, characterized in that applications interrogate the information unit for the location of a data carrier.



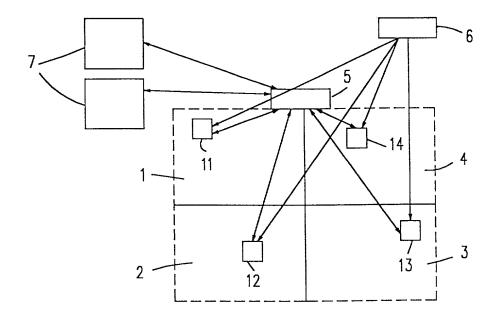


FIG.1

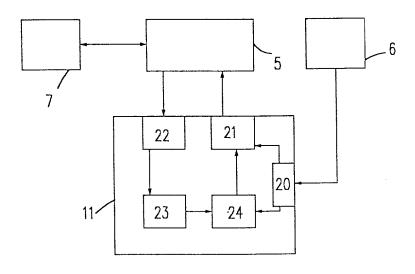


FIG.2

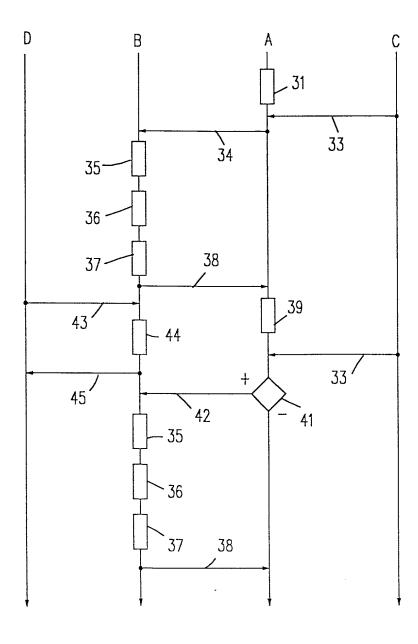


FIG.3

### ATTORNEY'S DOCKET COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY NUMBER (includes Reference to PCT International Applications) PHD 98.097 US As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: 1 - -M; residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated next to my name. I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which aa patent is sought on the invention entitled: the specification of which (check only one item below): is attached hereto. was filed as United States application Serial No. on and was amended on x was filed as PCT international application PCT/EP99/06107 Number 19 August 1999 (19.08.99) Į. and was amended under PCT Article 19 (if applicable) on : Series I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37. Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a). I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed: PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119: PRIORITY DATE OF FILING APPLICATION NUMBER COUNTRY

CLAIMED UNDER DAY, MONTH, YEAR 35 USC 119 YES 27 August 1998 19838902.7 Germany

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE -Patent and Trademarks Office

Comb	pined Declaration des Reference to Po	Attorneys Docket Number PHD 98.097 US					
OW a'l bus	ER OF ATTORNI siness in the Patent	EY: As a named inventor and Trademark Office co	r, I hereby appoin onnected therewit	t the following attorney(s) abnor h. (List name and registration n	/or agent(s) to pounder)	rosecute this application and transact	
		s Reg. No. <u>27,67</u> Reg. No. 2 <u>6,</u> 902	7	Direct Telepho (name and tele (914)332-0		phone number)	
FULL NAME OF FAMILY NAME INVENTOR MAAS		FIRST GIVEN NAME  Henning			SECONDE GIVEN NAME		
201	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	Aachen		STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY  Germany		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP  Germany	
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	PÖST OFFICE ADDRI Burghöhenwe		52080 Aachen		STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY  Germany	
FULL NAME OF NVENTOR		FALCK		FIRST GIVEN NAME Thomas		SECONDE GIVEN NAME	
202	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	Aachen		STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY  Germany DEX		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP  Germany	
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	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME		FIRST GIVEN NAME		SECONDE GIVEN NAME	
203	RESIDENCE & CHIZENSHIP	CITY		STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP	
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	INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME					
205	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP POST OFFICE	POST OFFICE ADDRESS		STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP  STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY	
	ADDRESS FULL NAME OF	FAMILY NAME		FIRST GIVEN NAME		SECONDE GIVEN NAME	
206	INVENTOR RESIDENCE &	CITY		STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP	
206	CITIZENSHIP POST OFFICE	POST OFFICE ADDRESS		СІТУ		STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY	
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true: ar mprisc	nd further that these	e statements were made der section 1001 if Title 1	with the knowled	ge that willful false statements	and the like so m	formation and belief are believed to be nade are punishable by fine or ts may jeopardize the validity of the	
SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 201  DATE March 23, 2000			SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 202		SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 203		
							DATE March 23, 2000
			SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 204			SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 205	
DATE			DATE		DATE	DATE	

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE- Patent and Trademarks Office (July 1994)